

SECRET EYES ONLY

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25 March 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 19 March 1958

PRESENT: Mr. Cutler, Mr. Dulles, Mr. Gray, Mr. Herter,
Mr. Scribner, Mr. Smith, Mr. Sprague, Mr. Strauss,
Mr. Washburn, Mr. Staats

1. U. S. Initiative Regarding Control of Outer Space

In the course of a discussion on the recent Soviet proposals for ~~joint~~ control of outer space, Mr. Cutler pointed out that such a proposal had in fact been made first by the United States (specifically by Ambassador Lodge at the United Nations in early 1957). It was agreed that at an early date the President should issue a statement, either at a press conference or otherwise, making it clear that this country had taken the initiative in this matter over a year before the Soviets' suggestion.

2. Demonstration of a "Clean" Nuclear Explosion

Mr. Strauss referred to the paper which had been circulated to the Board members by AEC, with regard to the possibility of holding a demonstration of a "clean" nuclear bomb as a part of the HARDTACK tests at Eniwetok. He pointed out that the President, as long ago as July 3, 1957, had publicly stated that we would invite foreign observers to witness such a demonstration at an appropriate time in the future. Mr. Strauss indicated, on the other hand, that there were certain disadvantages to the proposal, including the fact that it would be difficult or impossible to demonstrate the low percentage of radioactive fallout, particularly if the observers did not wish to be convinced, and that the expense of such a demonstration would run into two or three million dollars.

NSC review(s) completed.

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The consensus of the group was that it would be better not to conduct this demonstration had a commitment not been made by the President; however, it would seem that we should under the circumstances honor this commitment in as effective a manner as could be devised. State, Defense, AEC and USIA were asked to work out the details.

3. Leaks of Atomic Energy Information

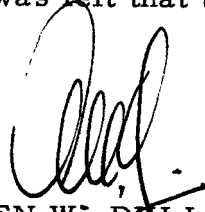
Mr. Strauss said that there had recently been a series of leaks of important classified information having to do with atomic energy, and deriving from information given to the ~~Senate~~ Committee on Atomic Energy. Mr. Strauss intends to write a letter to Senator Anderson pointing out that these leaks have occurred. He said that the principal ones involved information developed during a debate between Senator Javits and Senator Anderson, and the other stemmed from a television or radio broadcast.

4. Safety of Nuclear Weapons

The meeting adjourned to Secretary Herter's office, where the group met with Generals Loper and Starbird, of Defense and AEC respectively. These two officers explained the various safety factors involved in the transport of nuclear weapons, with particular reference to the recent incident at Florence, S. C., when an unarmed atomic bomb was inadvertently dropped from a SAC aircraft. It was explained

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It was stated that new devices are being developed in order to provide an additional measure of safety. It was felt that these could prevent similar accidents in the future.


ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

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